

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7003 of the First Extraordinary Session

By Haile

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend John Edward Berry for his philanthropic efforts.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is country artist John Edward Berry, who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a native of Aiken, South Carolina, John Berry grew up in Atlanta, Georgia; he now resides in Gallatin, where he is a devout member of Long Hollow Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Berry signed his first record deal twenty-six years ago, and since that time, he has earned numerous gold and platinum records; he has had twenty singles on the country music charts, six of which were Top 5 singles, and one single went to the top of the *Billboard* and *Radio & Records* country charts; and

WHEREAS, his single "Beautifully Broken" recently charted at number thirty on the Music Row Breakout Charts; the song is featured in the soundtrack for the movie of the same name; and

WHEREAS, during the 2019 holiday season, John Berry will once again headline the Annual Christmas Songs and Stories Tour, now in its twenty-third year, celebrating the true reason for the holiday with concertgoers young and old; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, John Berry scored a GRAMMY in 1996 for his participation in *Amazing Grace: A Country Salute to Gospel, Vol. 1*; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Berry is committed to giving back to others, both at home and abroad; he donates his time and talents to fundraising events and recently spent ten days in Africa on a mission trip, where he assisted those in need of medical care and basic necessities; and

WHEREAS, he also made a substantial donation to Music Health Alliance from funds that were raised to offset his own medical expenses after being diagnosed with throat cancer; and

WHEREAS, his many professional and philanthropic accomplishments aside, he is most grateful for the love and support he shares with his wife, Robin Ann Berry, and his three children, Taylor Marie, Sean Thomas, and Caelan James; and

WHEREAS, John Berry is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend John Edward Berry for his philanthropic efforts and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.